



IFW

Docket No.: 049677-0165

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Kazunori TANAKA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 2851
Application No.: 10/523,994	:	Group Art Unit: 2874
Filed: February 09, 2005	:	Examiner: Hoang Q. Tran

For: BUFFERED OPTICAL FIBER, AND BUFFERED OPTICAL FIBER TERMINATED
WITH CONNECTOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

References **JP 2000-351920 A**, **JP 2-146005 A**, and **JP 2-212339 A** were cited in the Japanese Office Action issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-043338 and their relevance is discussed therein. A copy of the foreign office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

References **JP 2001-316537 A**, **JP 2001-83380 A**, **JP 2000-241676 A**, and **JP 2001-278641 A** were cited in each corresponding foreign office action cited on the attached form PTO-1449 and their relevance is discussed therein. A copy of each foreign office action, together with English language versions thereof, are attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 049677-0165		SERIAL NO. 10/523,994	
			APPLICANT Kazunori TANAKA, et al.			
			FILING DATE February 09, 2005		GROUP 2874	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation Yes No
		JP 2001-316537 A	11-16-2001	RIKEN VINYL INDUSTRY CO LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2000-351920 A	12-19-2000	TAKEDA CHEM IND LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2-146005 A	06-05-1990	FUJIKURA LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2001-83380 A	03-30-2001	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC IND LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2000-241676 A	09-08-2000	TOYOKUNI ELECTRIC CABLE CO LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2001-278641 A	10-10-2001	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC IND LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2-212339 A	08-23-1990	FUJIKURA LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
		Japanese Office Action issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-044074, dated October 12, 2006				
		Japanese Office Action issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-043338, dated October 12, 2006				
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.